Appendix table 7-39.
Attitude toward or interest in science career: 2001
(Percentages)

Characteristic	Daughter	Son
All adults (number = 1,574)		
Happy	80	80
Not care	18	18
Unhappy	2	2
Male (number = 751)		
Happy	81	80
Not care	18	19
Unhappy	1	1
Female (number = 823)		
Happy	79	80
Not care	18	18
Unhappy	3	3
Less than high school graduate (number = 116)		
Happy	80	78
Not care	13	15
Unhappy	8	7
High school graduate (number = 834)		
Happy	78	78
Not care	21	21
Unhappy	1	1
Baccalaureate and higher (number = 614)		
Happy	86	86
Not care	13	14
Unhappy	1	*
Attentive public to science and technology[a] (number = 195)		
Happy	86	86
Not care	12	12
Unhappy	3	3

* = <.5

[a]To be classified as attentive to a given policy area, an individual must indicate that he or she is "very interested" in that issue, is "very well informed" about it, and a regular reader of a daily newspaper or relevant national magazine. Individuals who report that they are "very interested" in an issue area but do not think that they are "very well informed" about it are classified as the "interested public." All other individuals are classified as members of the "residual public" for that issue. The attentive public for science and technology combines the attentive public for new scientific discoveries and the attentive public for new inventions and technologies. Any individual who is not attentive to either of those issues but who is a member of the interested public for at least one of those issues is classified as a member of the interested public for science and technology. All other individuals are classified as members of the residual public for science and technology.

NOTES: Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding. A few respondents did not provide information about their highest level of education. Responses are to the following questions:

–Now I'd like you to consider the following situations. If you had a daughter, how would you feel if she wanted to be a scientist—would you feel happy, unhappy, or would you not care one way or the other?

–If you had a son, how would you feel if he wanted to be a scientist—would you feel happy, unhappy, or would you not care one way or the other?

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF/SRS), NSF Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology, 2001.